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UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/AC.105/C.1/L.181
11 February 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES
OF OUTER SPACE
Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
Twenty-ninth session
Agenda item 15

OTHER MATTERS

Report on the protection and preservation of the outer space environment, especially activities potentially affecting the Earth environment

Working paper submitted by Poland

1. At the thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held at Graz, Austria, in May-June 1991, the Committee took note of the working paper submitted by Poland containing a report on the protection and preservation of the outer space environment, especially activities potentially affecting the Earth environment (A/AC.105/L.190). Several countries expressed their support for the idea contained in the working paper.

2. Knowing the activity of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on the subject in question, particularly the long-term work devoted to the space debris problem (e.g., the report on "Environmental effects of space activities" (A/AC.105/420) and other documents), Poland would like to request the Subcommittee to consider the proposal to establish a working group to elaborate the above-mentioned report.

3. Taking into consideration working paper A/AC.105/L.190 of 27 May 1991, the working group could establish the final list of problems which should be included in the report and could select experts, institutions or agencies helpful in the elaboration of the items contained in the report.

4. The working group could act also as an editorial committee in the final shaping of the report.

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5. Representatives of States which are most active in space research, such as the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Independent States, China, France, Germany and Japan, should be invited to the working group. It would be advisable also to invite the authors of document A/AC.105/420, Dr. S. J. Bauer and Dr. L. Perek, as the experts with a remarkable experience in the field of the environmental effects of space activities.